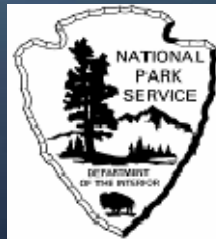
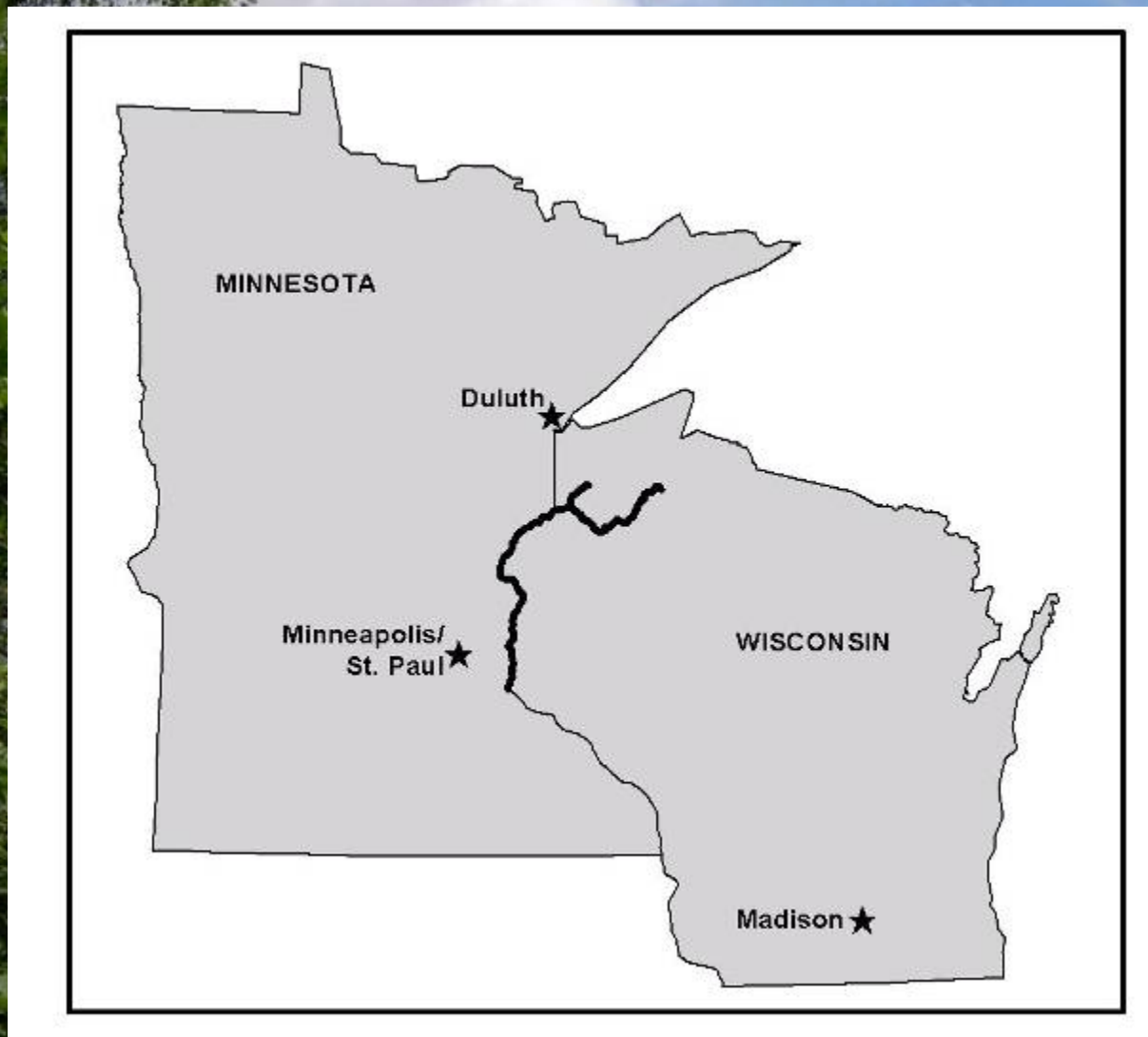


# **The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: A Case Study at the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway**

**Randy Ferrin**

**Chief, Natural Resources Division  
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway**





St. Croix National Scenic Riverway



# **The St. Croix River**

## **One of the original Wild and Scenic Rivers**





**Namekagon River**



## Lower St. Croix

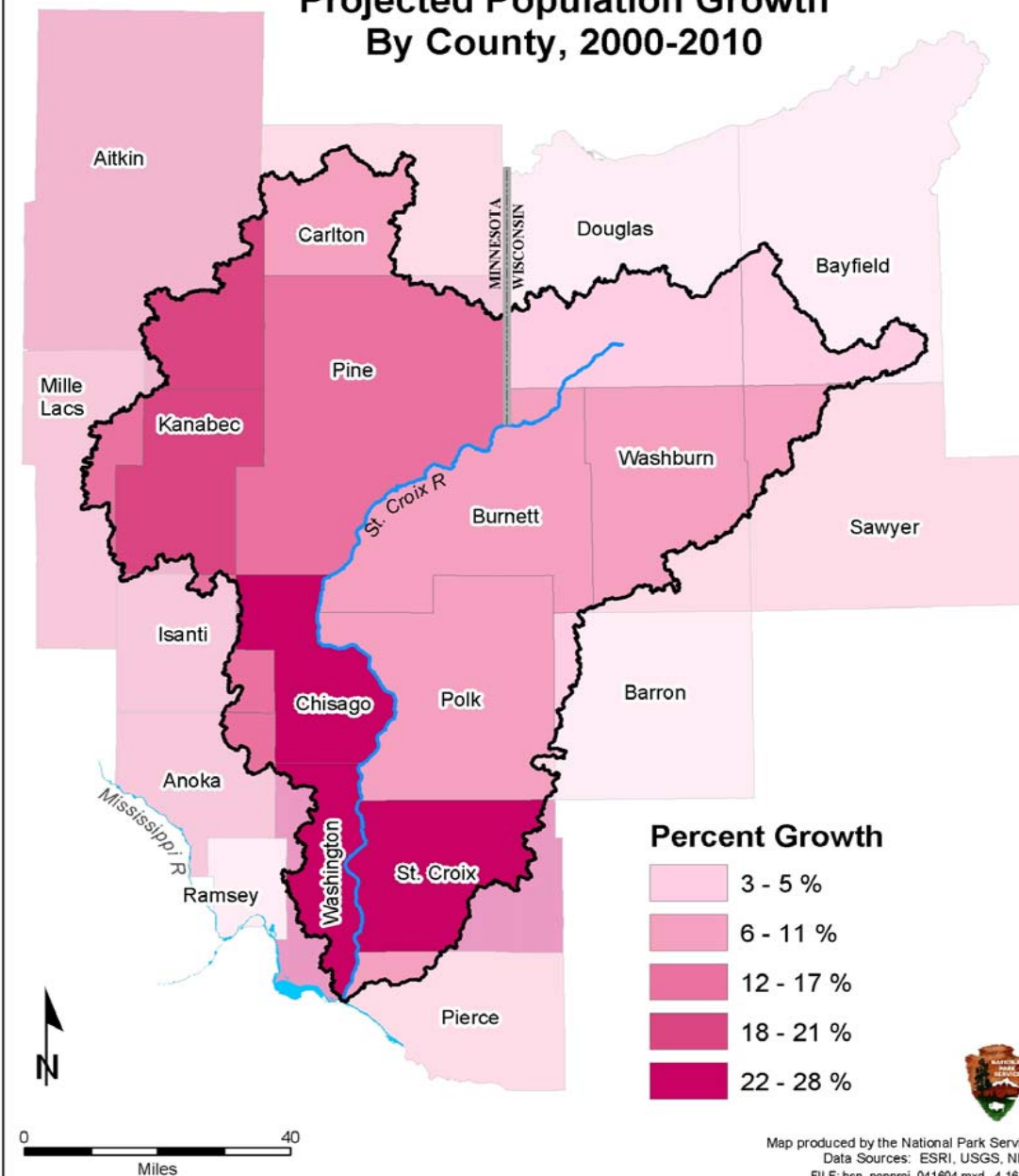


# LAKE ST.CROIX

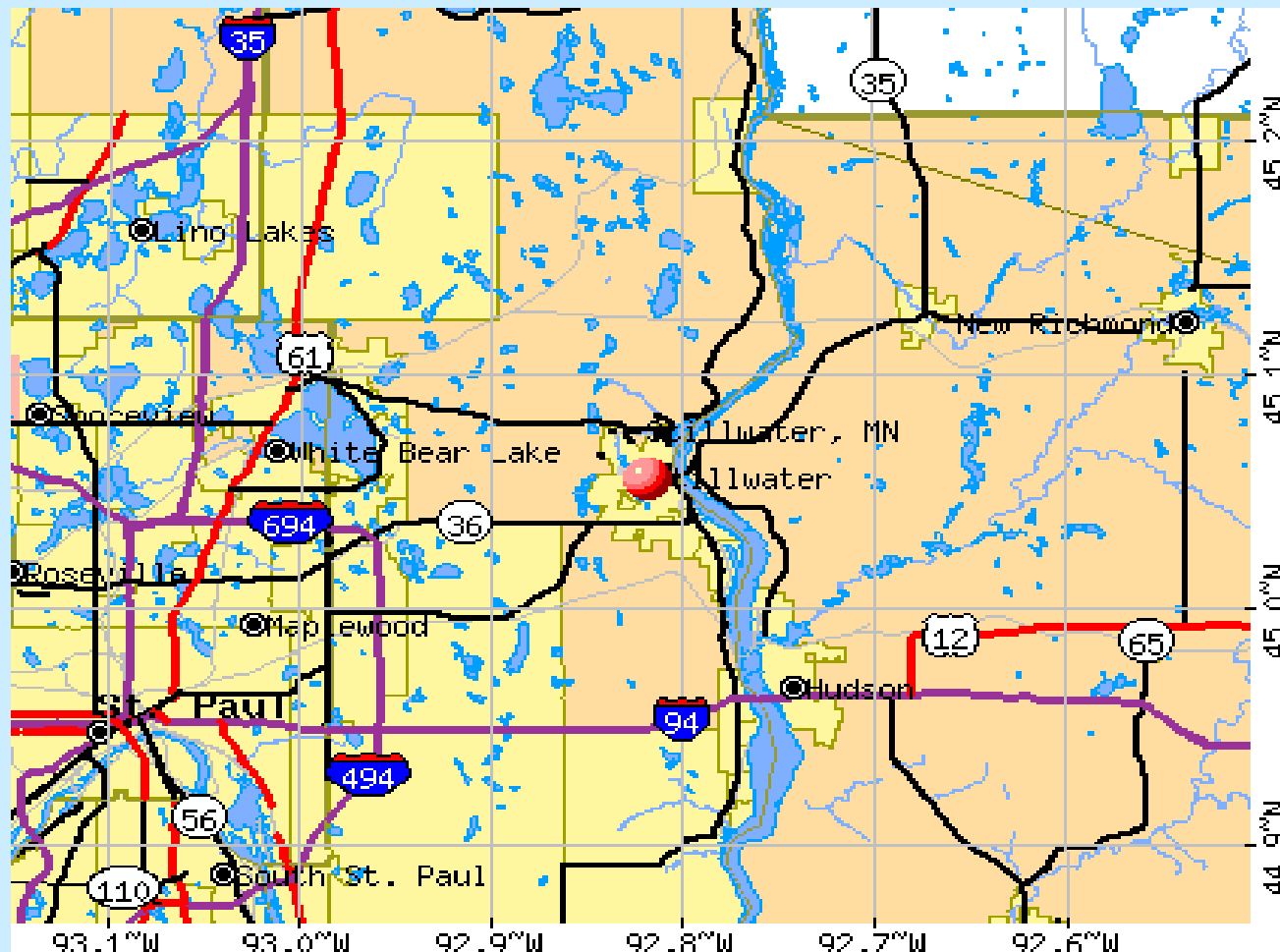
Jointly managed by the  
two states and the NPS



# ST. CROIX RIVER BASIN Projected Population Growth By County, 2000-2010



# East Metropolitan Area Western Wisconsin Growth Area





# Stillwater Lift Bridge



# Stillwater Lift Bridge Issues

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- Built in 1931
- Two Lanes
- Vehicle capacity = 11,200 vehicles/day
- 2002 average exceeded 19,000 v/d
- 2030 forecast = 21,700
- Lifts twice per hour on Summer days

# On the Register of Historic Places One of 2 left in Minnesota





# 1995 Proposed Bridge Replacement



C, 6-350' CONC. HAUNCHED  
BOX GIRDERS  
FROM PARK

**New corridor, diagonal, 3930 feet long**

# Stillwater Bridge

## Section 7(a) Determination



- **1996 Coast Guard and USACOE Public Notices triggered Section 7(a) analysis**
- **NPS issues Direct and Adverse Impact Determination late 1996**
- **1997 lawsuit in US District Court**
- **1998 Judge rules bridge was a water resource project and NPS had authority to veto it.**

# Bridge nonproliferation policy

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- The Lower St. Croix Management Commission, which includes the NPS, WDNR, and MDNR, has a policy that states that replacement bridges can be built in the same corridor but the old must be removed.



# Subsequent developments

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- **2000 Consensus Bridge Plan (shorter bridge)**
- **NPS issues Draft Section 7(a) Determination that includes \$15 mill. mitigation plan**
- **Secretary Babbitt signs Determination**
- **Lack of funding for mitigation tables bridge plan in 2001**

# And the latest developments:

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- **2002 President Bush (EO 13274) declares the bridge one of 7 projects for streamlined environmental review**
- **2002 New Consensus process leads to 2004 preferred plan, old bridge remains**
- **Early consultation indicates NPS will not issue adverse determination**



B<sub>1-3</sub> 6-500' EXTRADOSED  
BOX GIRDERS  
FROM PARK



